



West Fertilizer Plant Explosion

Regional Update

April 26, 2013, 1200 CDT

- On April 25, 2013, EPA continued air monitoring activities with three stationary sites. Locations included: one in a public park directly west of the facility; one near the apartment complex; one near the MCP. EPA will continue monitoring for the same parameters that include volatile organic compounds, ammonia, carbon monoxide, and lower explosive limit of methane gas. No air monitoring readings above background were detected during today's operations.
- EPA is compiling air monitoring data for ammonia to be uploaded onto the TCEQ website. EPA Toxicologist will assess results before submitting to TCEQ.
- EPA continues to coordinate with FEMA, ATF, OSHA, CSB, TCEQ, DSHS, and the Office of the Texas State Chemist on current and future site operations.
- The City of Waco Public Works personnel assisted the City of West with restoring water service to a portion of town north of Oak St. and south of Spring Street. American Water Works Association (AWWA) reported that water quality is generally good. However, the boil water order will remain in effect until further notice.
- TCEQ contractors continued conducting 24 hour air monitoring around the facility perimeter.
- An official statement of the cause of the incident has not been released. ATF investigations into the order of events and cause of the explosion are on-going. On April 25, ATF investigations were shortened to half-day due to memorial service in Waco.
- POTUS attended a memorial service in Waco honoring first responders and the citizens of West. Prior to the memorial services, the POTUS conducted an over flight of West Fertilizer facility and neighboring communities.
- FEMA is coordinating a debris task force. FEMA Category A declaration for debris removal is pending but likely. FEMA will coordinate debris removal with the City of West, McLennan County, USACE, and TCEQ. FEMA is also considering operations for public assistance. EPA will work with FEMA in determining an acceptable facility for debris disposal. TCEQ has developed a debris management plan for potential demolition operations in the near future.
- McLennan OEM Incident Command stated that repatriation of the residential area west of the facility will be initiated on Saturday 4/27/13. EPA met with TCEQ and the OEM Incident Commander to discuss potential air monitoring activities during the repatriation. The weather forecast for the weekend is thunderstorms and showers.

Personnel	EPA OSC In Field	EPA RSC in Field	R6 Contractor In Field	National Criminal Enforcement Response Team Agents	EPA In REOC	Contractor In REOC	Total
Total	2	1	4	1	1	0	9

*Current as of 0700hrs 4/26. OSC's deployed with the Mobile Command Post.